

1. ~~A client-side software module comprising:~~ A
computerized device, comprising:
a processor; and
a memory device, wherein the memory device contains computer readable
instructions for execution by the processor, the computer readable instructions
comprising a client-side software module whose instructions comprise:
a user interface for interacting with a user and for identifying a target web page;
a multilevel search control interface configured to accept at least two parameters, a
first one that defines a content based search string and a second one that identifies a linked
set of documents that are linked via one or more levels of hyperlinks to the target web
page;
a portable executable program code that is responsive to the at least two
parameters, and is programmed to perform a multilevel search to search each of the
documents specified in the linked set of documents for content that matches the content
based search string;
a network based program module that causes at least a portion of the portable
executable program code to be transmitted to a server that is adapted to accept executable
code and to execute such code on behalf of one or more remote clients;
wherein at least some executable code that has been transferred from the client-
side software module is permitted to execute at the server, and upon execution, the
portion of the executable code that is executed orchestrates a multilevel search to cause
the documents in the linked set of documents to be analyzed to determine whether they
match the content based search string, and to couple back to the client-side software
module a returned set of documents;
wherein each document in the returned set of documents includes content as
defined by the first parameter and is guaranteed to be a member of the linked set of
documents as defined by the second parameter; and

wherein the first parameter is not re-entered into any embedded search engines found in the linked set of documents or any other search engines to extend the search beyond the linked set of documents.

6. ~~A client-side software module comprising:~~ A computerized device, comprising:

a processor; and

a memory device, wherein the memory device contains computer readable instructions for execution by the processor, the computer readable instructions comprising a client-side software module whose instructions comprise:

a user interface for interacting with a user and for identifying a target web page;

a multilevel search control interface configured to accept at least three parameters to include i) one that defines a content based search string and ii) one that identifies a set of linked set of documents that are linked via one or more levels of hyperlinks to the target web page and iii) one that specifies one or more file types as defined by one or more file name extensions;

a portable executable program code that is responsive to the at least three parameters, and is programmed to perform a multilevel search to search each of the documents having the specified file type and being in the linked set of documents for content that matches the content based search string, wherein each document in the linked set of documents can be reached from the target document via a sequence of hyperlinks that are each found in documents in the linked set of documents;

a network based program module that causes at least a portion of the portable executable program code to be transmitted to a server that is adapted to accept executable code and to execute such code on behalf of one or more remote clients;

wherein at least some executable code that has been transferred from the browser module is permitted to execute at the server, and upon execution, the portion of the executable code that is executed orchestrates a multilevel search to cause the documents in the linked set of documents to be analyzed to determine whether they match the content based search string and also meet the file type specification, and to couple back to the client-side software module a returned set of documents;

wherein each document in the returned set of documents is of the specified file type, includes content as defined by the content based search string, and is guaranteed to be a member of the linked set of documents; and

wherein the first parameter is not re-entered into any embedded search engines found in the linked set of documents or any other search engines to extend the search beyond the linked set of documents.

21. ~~A client-side software module comprising:~~ A computerized device, comprising:

a processor; and

a memory device, wherein the memory device contains computer readable instructions for execution by the processor, the computer readable instructions comprising a client-side software module whose instructions comprise:

a user interface for interacting with a remote user;

a multilevel search control interface configured to accept at least two parameters, one that defines a content based search string and another that defines a linked set of documents that each have a hyperlink linkage referenced from a target web page;

[[a]] a multilevel search specification that is received from a remote client and that is responsive to the at least two parameters to specify a multilevel search to search each of the documents specified in the linked set of documents for the content that matches the content based search string, wherein documents in the linked set of documents are characterized in that they can be reached from the target web page through a sequence of N hyperlink activations, where N is a member of the group consisting of fixed integer and a parameter that defines a domain in a URL specification used to bound the search to only follow hyperlinks leading from the target web pages and falling within a specified domain;

wherein the server executes the multilevel search to cause the documents in the linked set of documents to be analyzed to determine whether they match the content based search string, and to couple back to the client-side software module a returned set of documents;

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wherein each document in the returned set of documents includes content as defined by the first parameter and is guaranteed to be a member of the linked set of documents as defined by the second parameter; and

wherein the first parameter is not re-entered into any embedded search engines found in the linked set of documents or any other search engines to extend the search beyond the linked set of documents.